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For Immediate Release: Thursday, October 20, 2005  
Contact: Rose Lynch (608) 266-6753  
Web Audio: [http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/multimedia/ui\\_state.mp3](http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/multimedia/ui_state.mp3)

## SEPTEMBER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED

### Adjusted Data

**Madison** – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today announced that the preliminary September seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Wisconsin is 4.6 percent, unchanged from the August rate, below last year's September rate of 4.7 percent and better than the national seasonally adjusted rate of 5.1 percent. While Wisconsin's rate remained unchanged from August to September, the national rate rose in September to 5.1 percent, up from the August rate of 4.9 percent. Last year the national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September was 5.4 percent.

### Unadjusted Data

Wisconsin's unadjusted unemployment rate for September, estimated at 4.0 percent and below the August rate of 4.3 percent, continued to show a stronger economic recovery for Wisconsin than for the nation. While the national September rate was down slightly from the August rate of 4.9 percent, the national September rate of 4.8 percent is well above Wisconsin's 4.0 percent rate. Wisconsin's unadjusted rate for September 2004 was 4.1; again, well below last year's rate.

"Our numbers this month are further indication that the state's economy is improving. We had the fewest number of unemployed workers this month than any month since September 2001. Our Wisconsin unemployment rate is lower than the national rate, an indication that Wisconsin's economy is gaining strength over the rest of the country," Secretary Gassman said. "We have had twenty-one consecutive months of job gains over the previous year's monthly total."

The number of Wisconsin residents who are employed is estimated at 2,925,777, down slightly from the August figure of 2,927,703 and the September 2004 figure of 2,935,194. The number of people in the labor force in Wisconsin in September is estimated at 3,047,320 compared to 3,057,766 in August. The labor force and employment normally contract slightly in September as many young people move out of the labor market as the school year begins.

Nonfarm wage and salary jobs were estimated at 2,850,800 for September, up 17,200 jobs from last September's figure for the state. September marks twenty-one consecutive months of job gains over the previous year's monthly total. That follows a period of almost three years of uninterrupted job losses.

Employment in construction, financial activities, education and health services, professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality services were up, while employment in manufacturing, trade, transportation and utilities, other services, and government were all down slightly from one year ago.

Construction in the state is well on its way to a record year for monthly employment averages.

September employment and unemployment figures for individual counties will be available October 26, 2005. This release also is available at <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/>.

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**WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY**  
In Thousands

ITEM	PRELIM. SEP 05	FINAL AUG 05	YEAR AGO SEP 04	NET CHANGE FROM	
				MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA					
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3047.3	3057.8	3060.0	-10.5	-12.7
UNEMPLOYMENT	121.5	130.1	124.8	-8.6	-3.3
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.0	4.3	4.1	-0.3	-0.1
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2925.8	2927.7	2935.2	-1.9	-9.4
PLACE OF WORK DATA					
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2850.8	2849.9	2833.6	0.9	17.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	2446.2	2469.4	2427.5	-23.2	18.7
GOODS PRODUCING	648.4	658.1	644.9	-9.7	3.5
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3.8	3.9	4.1	-0.1	-0.3
CONSTRUCTION	140.1	143.6	134.3	-3.5	5.8
MANUFACTURING	504.5	510.6	506.5	-6.1	-2.0
Durable Goods	310.4	314.4	313.8	-4.0	-3.4
Nondurable Goods	194.1	196.2	192.7	-2.1	1.4
SERVICE PRODUCING	2202.4	2191.8	2188.7	10.6	13.7
TRADE	429.9	435.8	432.1	-5.9	-2.2
Wholesale Trade	116.9	118.7	114.5	-1.8	2.4
Retail Trade	313	317.1	317.6	-4.1	-4.6
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	109.3	107.1	110.7	2.2	-1.4
Utilities	11.5	11.6	11.6	-0.1	-0.1
INFORMATION	49.7	50.5	49.7	-0.8	0.0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	159	160	157.2	-1.0	1.8
Finance and Insurance	130.4	130.5	129.2	-0.1	1.2
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	28.6	29.5	28	-0.9	0.6
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	263.5	264.4	256.8	-0.9	6.7
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	87.8	88.1	88.7	-0.3	-0.9
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	39.3	39.7	39.3	-0.4	0.0
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	136.4	136.6	128.8	-0.2	7.6
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	385.1	378	379.7	7.1	5.4
Educational Services	52.7	43.9	52.9	8.8	-0.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	332.4	334.1	326.8	-1.7	5.6
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	265.8	279.3	260.5	-13.5	5.3
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	37.9	42.5	38.4	-4.6	-0.5
Accommodation & Food Services	227.9	236.8	222.1	-8.9	5.8
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	135.5	136.2	135.9	-0.7	-0.4
GOVERNMENT	404.6	380.5	406.1	24.1	-1.5
Federal Government	29.2	29.3	29.6	-0.1	-0.4
State Government	102.1	97.4	104.1	4.7	-2.0
Local Government	273.3	253.8	272.4	19.5	0.9
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	267.0	267.0	0.0	0.0	267.0
(1) Includes L-M Disputes	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	3.0
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3048.0	3028.0	3068.8	20.0	-20.8
UNEMPLOYMENT	140.1	138.8	145.2	1.3	-5.1
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.6	4.6	4.7	0.0	-0.1
EMPLOYMENT	2907.9	2889.2	2923.6	18.7	-15.7

\*Differences in totals may occur as a result of rounding.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Labor Market Information Section, Bureau of Workforce Information